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DCI/IC 78-0044

17 July 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM:

Deputy to the DCI for Resource Management

SUBJECT: PRC(I) Meeting of 20 July 1978

1. On several occasions, you and I have discussed ways to involve the PRC(I) in the budget process. What follows is a distillation of the important points as well as some further suggestions in order to help you prepare for Item 3 on Thursday's agenda.

- A direct linkage between National Intelligence Topics and Budget options is probably impossible. In the future I hope to be able to relate missions to options, but we are not ready to try it yet. The memo you circulated to the PRC(I) in support of agenda Item 2 comes as close to doing that as I feel we can at this stage.

- Once the PRC(I) approves the NITs, presumably on Thursday, you intend to circulate them to Program Managers and will ask that community members respond to user's priorities in structuring their budget submissions. You also expect that an updated set of the NITs will be a consideration in the NFIP guidance you will issue next year.

- At the PRC(I) meeting in March you committed yourself to developing a process for involving the PRC(I) in the NFIP reviews. You are beginning that process by discussing mission priorities at the meeting on Thursday. You expect to consider members' views as part of your program decision process, and you plan to repeat the cycle at budget review time.

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- You can remind the members that you meet regularly with them individually and discuss, among other subjects, their views on priorities and budget options. Although not formal PRC(I) sessions, you consider these meetings to be one way for members to advise you of their opinions.

- In sum, you would like to have the PRC(I)'s support when you present the NFIP to OMB and the President. Therefore you may want to offer to send them copies of the tentative decision letters and invite their comments on specific issues before your final decisions are promulgated. This would have to be done with the understanding that only you are in a position to resolve differences and make the final decision on NFIP matters.



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